



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Planning Commission
NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION COMMITTEE

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-1741
Telephone (860) 395-3131 • FAX (860) 395-3125

SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
Wednesday, February 8, 2012, 2:00-3:30 P.M.
302 Main Street
2nd Floor Conference Room

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:03 P.M.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Bob Missel, Planning Commission; John Talbott, Zoning Commission; Janis Esty, Planning Commission; Cathy Flanagan, Planning Commission; Jerry Brophy, Conservation Commission; Thomas Stevenson, Board of Finance

Absent: Steven Gernhardt, Board of Selectmen

Staff: Christine Nelson, Town Planner; Jay Northrup, Planner, CRERPA; Sandy Prisloe, Environmental Planner; Don Lucas, Building Inspector (left at 2:20 p.m.)

III. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. **Minutes**

<p>MOTION to accept the minutes from meeting 1/25/2012; MADE by J. Talbott; SECONDED by C. Flanagan; APPROVED by R. Missel, J. Talbott, J. Esty, C. Flanagan, T. Stevenson, J. Brophy. (6-0-0).</p>
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B. **Correspondence** – none.

C. **Staff Report**

Mr. Prisloe sent data to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to be added to the Coastal Resiliency website pertaining to the Town. He said that TNC is developing a product to show a map of roads that could be inaccessible during hurricanes. Mr.

Stevenson would like to be able to get a list of those roads for emergency preparation.

IV. INVENTORY

V. MITIGATION ANALYSIS

- A. Summarize Impacts on Value of Structures & Economic Development**
- B. Study Impacts on the Ecological Resources and the Environment**

Mr. Prisloe displayed the Coastal Resilience planning tool and showed the locations significant marshes in Town. He mentioned that there are Flood Advancement Zones where rising waters naturally flow.

The Committee generally discussed acquisition of property vs. shoreline hardening or armoring. An engineering cost/benefit analysis would need to be done to determine which is better in each situation and to be eligible for Federal grants.

- C. Study Impacts on Critical Facilities & Infrastructure**

Mr. Prisloe demonstrated the Town's Geographic Information System in relation to critical habitats identified by the Department of Environmental Protection. He then combined layers of data from FEMA's 100 Year Flood Plain map with building locations in Town to give more specific information as to the level of damage to expect in storm flood scenarios. Using projected sea level rise combined with a Category 3 Hurricane projected effect, he was able to estimate the flood depth at each 10' x 10' grid on the Town map. The Committee was asked to determine how this information might be useful in developing the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. Ms. Nelson said she would like the ability to map the analysis of marsh migration vs. the likelihood of shoreline hardening. Mr. Prisloe said he would try to get that data together.

Mr. Northrup suggested that the Town develop a fund to offer sellers in certain hazardous zones in exchange for the Town to receive first right of refusal. The areas of greater ecological value would need to be identified. Ms. Esty thought that the Town should be broken down into areas and analyzed individually. Ms. Nelson added that maps of recommended focus areas should be included in the Mitigation Plan.

VI. PLAN REVIEW

- A. Read Draft Text about Social Demographics & Cultural Characteristics**

Mr. Northrup handed out a list of action items developed from the last meeting. He asked that any additional ideas to be emailed to himself or Ms. Nelson.

Mr. Northrup also provided first draft copies of the Mitigation Plan for the Town. He will insert data from the 2010 Census when it is available. Mr. Missel asked that the members review it and comment at the next meeting.

VII. **IMPLEMENTATION**

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

<p>MOTION to adjourn at 3:35 p.m. to a special meeting on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., 2nd Floor Conference Room, 302 Main Street; MADE by C. Flanagan; SECONDED by J. Esty; APPROVED by R. Missel, J. Esty, C. Flanagan, J. Talbott, J. Brophy, T. Stevenson. (6-0-0).</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Graham
Administrative Clerk